

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

Translation

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) 18-05-2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference

SP4411PC

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/000997

International filing date (day/month/year)

02-02-2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

05-02-2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

C09D 11/00, B41M 5/00, B41J 2/01

Applicant

SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☒ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP	Date of completion of this opinion	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.

PCT/JP2004/000997

Box No. I

Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - ☐ the international application in the language in which it was filed
 - ☐ the translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rule 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 - ☐ on paper
 - ☐ in electronic form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Claims 1-19

YES

Claims

NO

Inventive step (IS)

Claims 1-19

YES

Claims

NO

Industrial applicability (IA)

Claims 1-19

YES

Claims

NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP 2001-115069 A (Ricoh Co., Ltd.), 24
April 2001

Document 1 (paragraph [0034] and the like) cited in the international search report discloses an ink composition that comprises a compound with a polyethylene oxide chain and a polypropylene oxide chain; however, document 1 does not disclose an ink composition that comprises a compound with the specific polyethylene oxide chains and polypropylene oxide chains that are set forth in the present application. In addition, the feature of using such a compound in an ink composition is not obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Consequently, the inventions that are set forth in claims 1 to 19 are novel and involve an inventive step.

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International application No.

PCT/JP2004/000997

Box No. VI Certain documents cited

1. Certain published documents (Rule 43bis.1 and 70.10)

Application No. Patent No.	Publication date (day/month/year)	Filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (valid claim) (day/month/year)
JP 2004-107481 A [E, X]	08-04-2004	18-09-2002	
JP 2004-43607 A [E, X]	12-02-2004	10-07-2002	
JP 2004-107480 A [E, X]	08-04-2004	18-09-2002	
JP 2004-18689 A [E, X]	22-01-2004	17-06-2002	
JP 2003-335988 A [E, X]	28-11-2003	22-05-2002	

2. Non-written disclosures (Rule 43bis.1 and 70.9)

Kind of non-written disclosure	Date of non-written disclosure (day/month/year)	Date of written disclosure referring to non-written disclosure (day/month/year)
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